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SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1957

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## SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman - Capt. J. E. PRENTIS

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Councillor</u>

Badlesmere	e and	Leav	reland	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Morgan-Kirby, D.W.	0
Bapchild	• • •			• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Baker, A.L.	ox
Bobbing an	nd Iwa	ade	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Craddock, J.W.	ox
Borden	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •			• • •	• • •	Bishop, Mrs. K.	0
Boughton	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Rook, H.	x
Bredgar	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Southern, J.D.	
Buckland,	Norte	on ar	nd Stor	ne	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Burbridge, E.J.	0
Doddington	n	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Elvy, F.	ox
Dunkirk	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Bailey, J.C.	x
Eastling	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Meeson, A.J.	
Faversham	With	out,	Goodne	eston	e & G	raven	ey	• • •	Vinson, E.	
Halstow, 1	Lower	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Cotton, A.C.	ox
Hartlip	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Illingworth, W.G.	
Hernhill	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Foreman, S.E.	
Kingsdown	, Mil	sted	& Rodr	nersh	am	• • •	• • •	• • •	White, W.H.	0
Luddenham	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Stevens, S.	
Lynsted	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Waters, F.H.	ox
Newington	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Harlow, E.D.	x
Newnham	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Prentis, J.E.	ox
Oare	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	Harrison, F.E.	
Ospringe	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Fisher, G.F.	
Selling	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Gaskain, E.W.	
Sheldwich	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Milgate, E.T.	
Stalisfie	ld	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Lintott, P.	
Teynham	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Moor, D.J.	ox
Throwley	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Hodges, C.R.	
Tonge	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	Gascoyne, G.A.C.	
Tunstall	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Bensted, F.H.	
Upchurch	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	Bishop, C.C.	0

o Members of the Health Committee

x Members of the Housing Committee

Clerk of the Council - BRYAN TASSELL, Esq.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### Medical Officer of Health

J. T. MURPHY, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

#### Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. R. K. DUNNING,

## Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. R. A. O. BAMPTON,

#### District Public Health Inspector

Mr. C. G. A. RUDD,

Clerical Staff

Mrs. R. A. SMITH,

Rodent Operator

Mr. C. RICHARDS,

#### SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

Whitehall,

48/50, Bell Road,

Sittingbourne,

Kent.

June, 1958.

The Chairman and Members of the Swale Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Bishop and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Rural District for 1957.

According to the Registrar-General's estimate the population of the Rural District is 20,390 an increase of 100 over last year and 676 over the 1951 census figure.

The corrected birth rate of 14.5 and death rate of 9.2 both are somewhat below the national level of 16.1 and 11.5 respectively.

The Infantile Mortality comprising four children with a mortality of 13.9 is one of the lowest recorded in the past decade, and is to be compared with that of England and Wales 23.0 which is the lowest ever recorded. All the children died in the first week of life and the causes of death are similar to those causing stillbirths. While the number of children dying during the first year of life has been gradually diminishing this has been more noticeable in children over a month old due to the improved environmental conditions together with more knowledgable maternal, nursing and medical care.

The least reduction in infantile mortality is in children under one month especially in the perinatal group a term used to denote the stillbirths combined with the number of children dying during the first week of life. The relatively high perinatal mortality has remained constant during the past ten years and is due to adverse influences on the child before and during birth and over which environmental hygiene has no control.

The infectious disease notified during the year (826) were the highest number ever recorded in the district. Measles accounted for 491 notifications while 239 cases of Whooping Cough were notified.

An exceptionally high incidence of Pneumonia occurred especially in the western parishes being 58 as compared with 23 in 1956.

A small outbreak of Poliomyelitis started in mid July and went on until mid September - 8 cases were notified. The majority of the cases occurred in the eastern parishes and five were paralytic. One adult male aged 36 years with Bulbar paralysis died two days after admission to hospital. Some of the cases were seriously ill but eventually all made a good recovery.

As regards Measles we can usually expect a biennial outbreak, the disease generally was mild. Whooping Cough is very distressing especially in children under one year and it is hoped that with the more wide spread vaccination which is now offered by the County Council that like Diphtheria the disease will eventually disappear. Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was offered during the year to certain age groups in County Council clinics and by Medical Practitioners though this has had teething troubles with a lot of publicity nevertheless 798 children were vaccinated during the year.

The work of the Department is preventive and is therefore often unheralded and unsung. This is typified by the case reported under "Food Poisoning" in the body of the report. The eggs from this smallholding were being sold in the Medway Towns as well as locally and the potential risk of a large outbreak of salmonella poisoning was quite considerable whilst it cannot be said that quick action prevented an outbreak nevertheless action was taken and no further cases were reported.

It would appear from figures obtained from your Surveyor that 63% of the population only, has a weekly collection of refuse while 24% still rely on a monthly collection. This is inadequate and efforts should be made in the next year to obtain 100% weekly collection throughout the district. The Council well realise that never from a financial standpoint is the time opportune for such a service.

The Slum Clearance programme proceeds at an even rate - 42 houses altogether were represented during the year and 17 families were rehoused. Unfortunately the number of house available for slum clearance has been reduced by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

It is worthy of recording the high proportion of applications in the district for improvement grants amounting altogether to 108 dwellings 20 being owner occupiers and the remainder tenanted. The total amount of grant being £27,330.

I wish to record my thanks to the Public Health Department for their ready co-operation and especially to Mr. Dunning your Chief Public Health Inspector for his willing assistance.

I would also thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and advice.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. MURPHY.

#### SECTION I

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### 1. CLIMATOLOGY

The total rainfall for the year was slightly lower than in the previous year, that recorded at the Faversham Sewage Works being 23.08 inches as compared with 25.48 in 1956, and that at Highsted Water Works, Sittingbourne, 24.17 inches in 1957 as compared with 24.28 in 1956.

#### 2. AREA

62,011 acres (approximately 97 square miles).

#### 3. POPULATION

The estimated mid-year population for the District as given by the Registrar-General was 20,390 showing an increase of 100 over last year's estimate, and an increase of 676 over the 1951 Census figure. The natural increase of the population i.e., the excess of births over deaths during 1957 was 98.

#### 4. NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES

The estimated number of inhabited houses at the end of 1957 was 6,549 as compared with 6,635 at the end of 1956 - a decrease of 86. There were 20 houses built by the Council and 51 contructed privately (total 71), but during the year other houses ceased to be used as living accommodation either by reason of demolition or conversion to other purposes.

#### 5. RATEABLE VALUE

£159,766 as compared with £163,709 in the previous year.

#### 6. SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE

£645 no change from last year.

#### SECTION II

#### VITAL STATISTICS

#### 1. BIRTHS

1.	(i)	Live Births Legitimate Illegitimate	• • •	• • •	M 141(163) 11(9)	F 132(117) 3(9)	Total 273(280) 14( 18)
					152(172)	135(126)	287(298)
	(ii)	Still Births Legitimate Illegitimate	•••	• • •	3(3) -(-)	3(2) -(1)	6(5) <b>-</b> (1)
					3(3)	3(3)	6(6)

- (iii) Birth Rate The crude birth rate for the year at 14.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population shows a slight decrease as compared with 14.7 per 1,000 in 1956. The corrected birth rate for the area is 14.5, the rate for England and Wales being 16.1.
- (iv) Percentage of Still Births and Illegitimate Rate The percentage of still births to total births has again risen slightly from 2.01% in 1956 to 2.09% in 1957, and the illegitimate rate shows a decrease from 6.4% in 1956 to 5.1% in 1957.
- (v) Excess of Births over Deaths This amounted to 98 for the year 1957 and shows an increase as compared with the corresponding figure for 1956 which was 95 and is slightly less than 108 which was the figure for 1955.
- (vi) Table 1 shows the number of births and birth rates since 1946.

#### 2 DEATHS

(a) The number of deaths occurring in or assigned to the area during 1957 was 189, of which 103 were males and 86 females. This is a decrease on the number (203) which occurred in the previous year and as will be seen from Table 1 the number of deaths occurring in 1957 is below the average for the past twelve years.

The following statement shows the age and sex distribution of the deaths that occurred in 1956.

	Und 1	1-5	-15	-25	<b>-</b> 35	-45	<del>-</del> 55	<b>-</b> 65	-75	<b>-</b> 85	Over 85	Total
Male	1	1	2	2	1	5	4	14	33	29	11	103
Female .	3	mas .	1	1	era	3	5	10	22	29	12	86
Total	4	1	3	3	1	8	9	24	55	58	23	189

- (b) The crude death rate at 9.3 per 1,000 of the population shows a slight decrease over that of the previous year (10.0 per 1,000). The corrected death rate for the area is 9.2 which compares favourably with the death rate for England and Wales which is 11.5.
- (c) Table 1 shows the number of deaths and death rates since 1946 and Table 2 shows the causes of death during 1957 classified by the Registrar-General under 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.

TABLE I

Births and Deaths 1946 - 1957

Year	No. of Births	No. of Deaths	Excess of Births over Deaths	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate
1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956 1957	336 439 391 367 359 320 325 291 331 286 298 287	219 228 219 227 241 211 193 211 208 178 203 189	117 211 172 140 118 109 132 80 123 108 95 98	21.9 24.4 20.3 19.3 18.8 16.3 14.5 16.4 14.1 14.7	12.4 12.7 11.4 11.9 12.6 10.8 9.8 10.5 10.3 8.8 10.0

## TABLE 2

## Causes of Death

	Causes	Males	Females	Total
23456789011234567890123456789012345678901234567890123345	Tuberculosis Respiratory Tuberculosis Other Syphilitis disease Diphtheria Whooping Cough Meningcoccal infections Acute Poliomyelitis Measles Other infective and parastic diseases Malignant neoplasm, stomach Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus Malignant neoplasm, breast Malignant neoplasm, uterus Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms Leukaemia, aleukaemia Diabetes Vascular lesions of nervous system Coronary disease, angina Hypertension with heart disease Other heart diseases Other circulatory disease Influenza Pneumonia Bronchitis Other disease of Respiratory system Ulcer of stomach and duodenum Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea Nephritis and nephrosis Hyperplasia of prostate Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion Congenital malformations Other defined and ill-defined diseases Motor vehicle accidents All other accidents Suicide Homicide and operations of war	-(1) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-)	1(-) 1(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) -(-) 1(2) -(-) 1(2) 1(1) 2(12) 1(2) 1(3) 2(1) 2(2) 1(3) 2(2) 1(3) 2(2) -(-) -(-) 2(1) 7(10) 1(1) -(-) -(-) 2(1) 7(10) 1(1) -(-)	1(1) 1(-) -(-) -(-) 1(-) -(-) 1(-)
		103(107)	86(96)	189(203

#### 3. INFANT MORTALITY

There were 4 deaths of infants under 1 year of age during 1957. A decrease of 5 over that of the previous year, which gives an Infant Mortality Rate for the year of 13.9 per 1,000 live births this is one of the lowest recorded for the past twelve years. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the country as a whole is 23.0 once again establishing a new low record.

The number of infant deaths and the rate per 1,000 births for the past twelve years in the district are given in Table 4. Infantile Mortality is an indication of standard of living, environmental conditions and medical care. All the deaths occurred during the neonatal period.

The causes of Infant Deaths that occurred are given in Table 3.

#### TABLE 3

#### INFANT DEATHS

Cause	Place of Death	Male	Female
1. Persistent Atelectasis Prematurity.	Hospital	ema	2 days
2. Intrauterine Asphyxia Inhalation of Liquor Amnii.	Home	l hour	-
3. Congenital Morbus Cordis Prematurity.	Hospital		3 days
4. Cardiac failure.	Hospital	4000	l week

Year	No. of Deaths	Rates
1946	18	46.4
1947	21	47.8
1948	9	23.0
1949	8	21.8
1950	6	16.7
1951	5	15.6
1952	6	18.5
1953	4	13.7
1954	6	18.1
1955	5	17.5
1956	9	30.2
1957	4	13.9

#### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

l. Total number of the various Infectious Diseases notified during the year, the number of cases admitted to Hospital or Sanatorium and the number of deaths attributed to each disease in the Registrar-General's classification of deaths is given in Table 5.

TABLE 5

Disease		Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital or Sanatorium	Deaths
Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Measles Pneumonia Poliomyelitis Paralytic Non-Paralytic Food Poisoning Puerperal Pyrexia Tuberculosis Pulmonary	• • •	8(19) 239(29) 491(15) 58(23) 5(1) 3(-) 4(-) 2(-) 16(10) 826(97)	4 - - 3 5 3 - 1 11 27	- - 6 1 - - 1

2. Table 6 shows the age groups affected by the diseases notified.

TABLE 6

Age Groups Distribution - Infectious Diseases

Disease	Un 1		-10	<del>-</del> 15	-20	<b>-</b> 25	-30	<del>-</del> 35	-40	-45	<b>-</b> 50	<b>-</b> 55	0v 55	Un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever. Whooping Cough Measles Pneumonia Polio: Paralytic Polio: Non-" Food Poisoning Puerperal P: Tuberculosis P	2	141	4 129 305 8 2 1 -	1 14 29 1 2 1 1 -	1 2 4	1 1 1 5 9	1 - 2 1 1 5	- - 1 - 1 - 2	- - 4 1 - - 1	1 1 3 5	2 - 1 3	1 - 1	- 3 - 13 - 1 - 2	2 2 11	8 239 491 58 5 3 4 2 16

There were 826 notifications received during the year as compared with 98 in 1956, this is the highest number ever recorded in the Swale Rural District. Measles accounted for 491 notifications as compared with 15 in the previous year, an increase of 476. Whooping Cough was also high there being 239 notified in 1957 as compared with 29 in 1956 an increase of 210. There was once again an increase in the number of cases of Pneumonia notified 58 in 1957 and 23 in 1956 - 38 of these cases occured in the last three months of the year. It is pleasing to note that there was a considerable drop in the cases of Scarlet Fever notified 8 in 1957 and 19 in 1956.

There were 8 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis notified - 5 Paralytic and 3 Non-Paralytic, an increase of 7 over the figure for last year.

I have summarised the cases as follows:-

#### Leaveland

Paralytic - 10 years old girl admitted to Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate on the 21/7/57. Made good recovery.

Non-Paralytic - 9 years old boy admitted to Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate on the 27/7/57. Complete recovery.

Non-Paralytic - 3 years old boy admitted to Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate on the 7/8/57. Found to be a carrier.

(These three children were all from one family - also another boy from this family was found to be a carrier).

#### Sheldwich

Paralytic Bulbar - 36 years old man admitted to Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate on the 5/8/57. Died two days later.

#### Borden

Paralytic - 12 years old girl admitted to Keycol Sanatorium, Bobbing on the 27/7/57. Made good recovery.

#### Ospringe

Paralytic - 7 years old boy admitted to Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate on the 16/8/57. Made good recovery.

#### Doddington

Paralytic Bulbar - 7 years old boy admitted to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford on the 17/8/57. Made good recovery.

#### Teynham

Non-Paralytic - 10 years old boy admitted to Keycol Sanatorium, Bobbing on the 10/9/57. Made good recovery.

#### FOOD POISONING

In April a father and daughter residing at Hartlip were removed to the Isolation Hospital, Bobbing suffering from Salmonella typhimurium. The family had a small holding with approximately forty ducks and salmonella typhimurium was isolated from both eggs and ducks. Sale of the eggs was forbidden and eventually the whole flock of birds was destroyed. No other cases occurred in the district.

In Appendix A is shown the distribution in the various parishes of cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1957.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

There were no cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during 1957. Once again there was an increase in the number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified - 16 in 1957 as compared with 13 in 1956.

#### TABLE 7

Number of cases of Tuberculosis notified and number of deaths and the death rates each year from 1945 - 1957

	Number of :	Primary ons Received	De	aths	1	Rate per Population
Year	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non- Pulmonary
1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955 1956	14 12 10 16 11 7 12 12 12 12 13 16	3 6 3 5 1 4 1 3 5 1 2	10 8 9 4 5 3 4 5 3 3 1 1	2 1 3 3 3 1	6,03 4.5 5,01 2.08 2.6 1.5 2.04 2.5 1.5 1.5 0.5	1.2 0.5 0.0 1.5 1.5 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0

A summary of the cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register for the area at the end of 1957 is shown in Table 8. Though there has been over a period of years a gradual increase in the numbers on the Register (88 at the end of 1947, and 178, at the end of 1957) this is neither unexpected nor alarming, but is due to the fact that the patients are on the Register for longer periods than previously.

TABLE 8

	Pulmonary M F		Non-Pulmonary M F		Total
No. of cases on Register at 1st January, 1957  New Cases  Restored to Register  Transferred to Swale	68(65) 9(6) -(-) 3(4)	61(57) 7(4) -(-) 3(1)	18(18) -( -) -( -) -( -)	16(16) -( 1) -( -) -( -)	163(156) 16( 11) -( -) 6( 5)
	80(75)	71(62)	18(18)	16(17)	185(172)
Died	-( 1) 1( 3) -( 3) -( -)	1( -) 2( 1) 1( -) -( -)	-( -) -( -) -( -)	1( -) 1( -) -( -) -( 1)	2( 1) 4( 4) 1( 3) -( 1)
	79(68)	67(61)	18(18)	14(16)	178(163)

#### IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

## (i) Diphtheria Immunisation

From figures supplied by courtesy of the County Medical Officer it appears that 259 children under 5 years of age and 47 children aged 5 - 15 years were immunised during 1957. It would also appear that of all children in the area under the age of 15 years on the 31st December, 1957, 3,997 had completed a course of immunisation before that date. The number of re-inforcing innoculations carried out (mainly children commencing school life) was 413 as compared with 351 in the previous year.

#### (ii) Vaccination

Also by courtesy of the County Medical Officer it is reported that 191 primary vaccinations and 8 re-vaccinations were carried out, as compared with last year's figures which were 178 and 4 respectively. Of the 191 primary vaccination 107 were of children under 1 year of age and 68 of children aged 1 - 5 years.

## (iii) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The following table gives the numbers of children resident in the Swale Rural District who received a course of two injections against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

#### TABLE 9

Year Born	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Number Vaccinated	177	175	167	135	59	39	23	23		-	1	798

#### SECTION IV

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Local Authority Health Services under the National Health Service Act are administered by the Kent County Council as the Local Health Authority. Those services include the care of Mothers and Young Children; the provisions of Midwives; Home Visiting and Home Nursing; Vaccination and Immunisation; Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care and the Domestic Help Services. Mental Welfare and the treatment and care of Tuberculosis patients is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

#### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

Through the courtesy of the County Medical Officer, the following extract from the Annual Report on the School Health Services in the Area is given.

#### (a) Medical Inspections:-

(i)	Number of	children inspected (periodic)	. 649	1
(ii)	Number of	special inspections	. 23	
(iii)	Number of	re-inspections	. 309	}
(iv)	Number of	children found at periodic inspections		
		re treatment		
(v)	Percentage	e requiring treatment	1.1	%

The defects found during the inspections are given in the following table from which it will be seen that eye defects and psychological treatment are the principle reason for pupils requiring treatment.

Defects						Number	
Eyes Ears, nose and throat Orthopaedic Lungs Heart and Circulation Development Psychological	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	<ul><li>0 0</li><li>0 0</li><li>0 0</li><li>0 0</li></ul>	• • •	• • •		48 (21) 6 (11) 9 (13) 1 (2) - (-) 1 (-) 14 (6)	

#### (b) General Condition.

The classification of the general condition of children inspected was as follows:-

	Number of	Percentages			
Groups	Pupils Inspected	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		
Entrants Second Age Group Third Age Group Other periodic inspections .	409 140 - 649	100.0 100.0 -			

From these figures it would appear that generally speaking the health of the school children in the area remains good. It is pleasing to be able to record once again an increase in those classified as satisfactory 100.0% as compared with 99.7% in 1956.

## (c) Dental Inspection.

As no dental surgeon is at present available to work on Mobile Unit No. 1, children now receive emergency treatment by Mr. P. D. Gausden at Faversham and Sheerness Clinics.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurse or other authorised persons ... ... ... 1,186(3,948)

(d) Infestation with Vermin.

(ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ... ... ... 6(6)

(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944) ... -(-)

#### SECTION V

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. Water Supplies

The parishes of Hartlip and Upchurch are supplied by the Medway Water Board, Bobbing Iwade, Lower Halstow and Newington by the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council, Oare by the Faversham Water Company and the remaining parishes by the Mid Kent Water Company.

There is approximately 96% of the houses with main water supply inside the houses and during the year investigations into the possibility of getting a main supply to the Denstroude portion of the district were recommenced. There are 15 houses, 2 farms and 1 public house in this are which have water carted to them and this is the last group of houses in the rural district without a main supply. At a meeting with the owners they agreed to assist the Council in financing a scheme for this main supply, and it is sincerely hoped that this will be provided before the next annual report.

#### 2. Drainage and Sewerage

The parishes of Boughton, Oare, Teynham, Lynsted, Iwade, Newington, Lower Halstow and parts of the parishes of Borden and Rodmersham have sewerage facilities.

I am very pleased to be able to report that at Last after many disappointments the Newington and Lower Halstow Sewerage Scheme has been completed. New works have been provided at Lower Halstow and will form the basis of sewage treatment for the western parishes of the Swale Rural District.

Now that these disposal works have been completed I trust that the sewerage of the parish of Upchurch will follow without any undue delay as this particular parish has been the centre of more drainage problems than any other parish in the district.

#### 3. Public Cleansing

#### (a) Refuse Collection.

Refuse collection, particularly in the eastern district, continues to be difficult and overtime is incurred on certain rounds especially in the Hernhill-Dargate district and in Teynham where the number of houses has increased since the schedule was adopted in 1948. Approximately 63% of the population have a weekly collection, 13% of the population a fortnightly collection and 24% of the population a monthly collection and I feel that this standard should be improved.

The tip at Cryalls Lane was brought into operation at the beginning of 1957 and is filling up more rapidly than was anticipated. A temporary tip has been used at Bapchild in an endeavour to fill up a chalk pit which has been a source of nuisance for some time, but this was not completed at the end of 1957.

#### (b) Cesspool Emptying.

The demand on this service is steadily increasing year by year as more houses are erected in districts where main drainage is not available.

It appears that unless more works of sewerage are carried out a new cesspool emptier will be required every three years at the present rate of increase (approximately 500 loads/year) particularly as less disposal points are available than ever before. During the year 7,845 loads were dealt with throughout the whole district.

## 4. Rodent Control

There is one operator carrying out inspections for locating infestations of rats and mice and also treatments for iradicating such infestations. Where tenants or owners wish to carry out the work

themselves advice as to the best methods to be employed is always available. Since the introduction of Warfarin many farmers carry out their own disinfestations although the service of the Council's Operator is available if requested.

The figures in the following table show some reduction this year owing to the unfortunate absence of the operator after injuring his finger while carry out the maintenance of his van.

	7				
		Type	of Propert	У	
		Non-Agricu	ltural		
	Local Auth- ority		All other (inc: Business Premises	Total of Cols (1) (2) &(3)	Agricul- tural
l. Number of properties in Local Authority	5	6635	334	6974	723
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of: (a) Notification	69ED	35	3	38	2
(b) Survey under Act.	5	1451	62	1518	182
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	25	1823	73	1921	191
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by: (a) Rats (Major	3	41	_	44	4
(Minor	2	147	4	153	5
(b) Mice (Major	Camp	6	1	7	am)
5. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	5	194	4	203	4
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	20	199	4	223	4
7. Number of "Block" control scheme carried out		A	38		

#### 5. Disinfection and Disinfestation

- (i) During the year 44 visits were made for investigating cases of infectious disease and 21 rooms were disinfected.
- (ii) There were only 51 visits concerning complaints of vermin not a very serious problem in this area.

#### 6. Inspection of District

A summary of visits made during the year is given in Appendix C.

#### SECTION VI

#### FOOD AND FOOD SUPPLIES

#### Food Supplies

A great deal of attention is given to premises where food is handled or prepared and during the year 14 informal notices were served and complied with. As will be seen from Appendix E the work covered by these notices was not extensive and the standard generally is reasonably satisfactory.

#### Unsound Food

Diseased or unsound meat or similar food is stained green and disposed of by recognised firms manufacturing fertilisers and glue etc. Tin foodstuff which has been found to be unfit for human consumption is dealt with by destruction of the tin and burial.

A list of foodstuff unfit for human consumption is given in Appendix D.

## (i) Food Premises in the Area

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the area:-

Grocery and Ge	eneral		• • •	• • •	• • •	58
Inns etc.,	• • •		• • •		• • •	59
Restaurants	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	12
Butchers	• • •			• • •		13
Fishmongers		0 0 0	• • •	• • •	• • •	3
Confectioners	& Mis	cella	neous	• • •	• • •	55
Bakehouses	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	4
Dairies			• • •			4

Of these premises 77 are registered for the sale of ice cream and 16 for the preparation or manufacture of sausages etc.

#### (ii) Milk

There has been a slight increase in the number of people registered as "distributors" of milk.

Registered	Distributors	of Milk	• • •	• • •	• • •	36(33)
Registered	Dairies (othe	r than Farms)				4(4)

All milk is sold under one or other of the Special Designations and the following licences have been issued by the Council.

(a) Dealers (Business in Swale)

Pasteurised	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	 • • •	• • •	8(5)
Sterilized	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	 	• • •	18(14)
Tuberculin							

(b) Supplementary (Business not in Swale but selling milk in the rural district)

Pasteurised	• • •	• • •		• • •	• • •	 • • •	11(10)
Sterilized	• • •		• • •		• • •	 • • •	6(6)
Tuberculin Tes	ted					 	11(10)

## (iii) Ice Cream

No ice cream is manufactured in the area but 77 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. There were 5 samples of ice cream submitted for examination during the year and of these 3 were in Grade I, and 2 in Grade II.

## (iv) Meat

The number of slaughterhouses now in operation is 3 and these are in regular use each week. Once again 100% inspection of all animals killed has been maintained.

The following table summarises the types of animals killed and the findings on inspection. The details of the meat found to be unfit for human consumption is included in Appendix D.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	450	2	30	479	955	-
Number inspected	450	2	30	479	955	_
All diseases except Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned	-	_	_	3	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	61		1	3	14	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber-culosis and cysticerci.	13.5%	_	3.3%	1.3%	1.6%	-
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned	2	_	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	_	_	-	13	_
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.4%	_	_	<u>-</u>	1.5%	-
Cysticercosis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	_	_	_	-	_	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	_	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	_	-	-	-

#### (v) Food and Drugs

The administration of the part of the Act concerning the quality and nature of articles for sale is administered by the County Council Weights and Measures Department, County Hall, Maidstone, and I am indebted to Mr. S. Strugnell the Chief Inspector for the following summary of work carried out in this area.

#### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers within the SWALE RURAL DISTRICT during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

<u>Article</u>	No.
Aludrox Beef Suet Boric Acid Bread and Butter Cake Mix Condensed Milk Cough Syrup Desiccated Coconut Double Devon Cream Fruit Salad Garden Mint Gin Ground Cinnamon Ground Ginger Ground Rice Ice Cream Instoms Lemon Flavouring Milk Mint Sauce Mixed Spice Nerve Tone Tablets	
C/	fd. 47

Article		NO.
Olive Oil		47 1 1
Pickled Onions Processed Peas Pure Sterilized Cream Rice		1 1 1
Rum	• • • • • • • • •	1 1 1
Wheat Force Flakes Whisky Whole Beetroot	• • • • • • • • •	1 1 1
	Total	59

Anticla

#### Summary

Milks	24
Drugs	6
Spirits	3
Other Samples	26
•	
	59

All the above samples were returned as genuine.

Weights and Measures Department, County Hall, Maidstone.

June, 1958.

#### SECTION VII

#### HOUSING

During the year under review 57 persons in 17 families have been re housed by the Council and a total of 21 houses have been demolished and a further 7 closed for human habitation by virtue of undertakings or closing orders. There were 42 houses represented as being unfit for human habitation; 30 as individual houses and 12 in "clearance areas". The programme the Council submitted to the Ministry was for dealing with 204 houses in 5 years so that the rate of progress at the moment is about right, but in view of the reduced building programme it will not be possible to maintain this rate. However the improvement of some houses originally scheduled for demolition will reduce the figure to be dealt with.

The work of improvement under the Housing Act, 1949 is maintaining steady progress. During the year grants were approved for the improvement of 108 dwellings; 20 owner occupied and the remainder tenanted. The total amount of grant involved was £27,330 and the most common improvements, the provision of bathroom, hot water supply, drainage and modernisation of kitchen. In 1957 the improvements to 49 dwellings was completed.

Details of work done on Housing are as follows:-

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts	294
Number of houses found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation	152
Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense	30
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by informal action	95

fit after service of formal notices	. NIL
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	. 23
Number of houses demolished	. 21
Number of houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936	. 7
Number of dwelling houses reconditioned and undertakings cancelled	. NIL

#### New Houses

A total of 71 new houses were built during the year 51 by private enterprise and 20 by the Council.

#### Hop Pickers' Camps

There are now 36 camps in the district but the number of imported pickers is steadily dropping, so that the question of improvements to the huts and surroundings becomes more difficult. However many improvements were made in the past and in this area the standard is reasonably good.

#### Rent Act, 1957

This Act came into force in July and before the end of the year 41 applications had been received for Certificates of Disrepair. The action carried over into 1958 but in these particular cases 31 undertakings to carry out work were received and approved and 10 certificates issued.

The work of this Act has been beneficial in obtaining repair of property.

#### SECTION VIII

#### SHOPS AND FACTORIES

#### 1. Shops Act

The administration of the requirements of the Shops Act is delegated by the County Council to this Authority. There are 200 shops on the register and during the year 513 visits were made. There were no infringements of the Act to report.

#### 2. Factories

No contraventions of the Factory Act were recorded at the 45 visits made to factories.

		Numbers	<u>Visits</u>
Factories with power	• • •	54	38
Factories no power	0 0 0	15	5
Workplaces	• • •	15 84	2 45

## APPENDIX "A"

Distribution of	cases	of ]	Infect	ious	Dise	ase l	oy Pa	ris	hes	
		ממ		ia	t; tic	on-	Food Poisoning	al	ry .	
	(a)	Whooping	(a)	Pneumonia			'n	peral	xra onary	
	Scarlet Fever	doc	Cough Measle	me	lio: ralv	Polio:	od isc	eri	yrex JB.	Total
	S E	Mh	Co.	P	Poli Para	Ро	FO Po	Puer	구	
Badlesmere	_	-	2	-	-	-,	-	-	-	2
Bapchild	_	6	5	2	-	-		-	-	13
Bobbing	2	1 15	17 26	2	1		1	1	1	20 48
Boughton	~ -	3	·6	^2	_	_	_	_	-	11
Bredgar	_	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	9
Buckland	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-
Doddington	_	16	5	_	1	-		-	_	22
Dunkirk	_	4	5	1	-	-	-	_	1	11
Eastling Faversham Without	_	15	9 1	_	_	_	_	_	_	24
Goodnestone			_	-	_	_	-	_	_	_
Graveney	_	1	2	2	-	-	-		1	6
Halstow, Lower	_	27	13	8	-	-	1		-	49
Hartlip	_	12	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	20
Hernhill	1 -	30	38	-	-	-	_	-	1	69 58
Iwade Kingsdown	_	13	44	_	_	_	_	_	<del>-</del>	2
Leaveland		_	_	1	1	2	_	_	_	4
Luddenham		1		***		-	-	1	-	2
Lynsted	-	7	40	-	-	-	-	-		47
Milsted			3	1	-	_	-	<b>-</b>	_	4
Newington	1	1	36	1	_	_	_	_	3	42
Norton	_	4	4 5	1	_	_	_	_	_	7
Oare	1	5	_	-	_	_	_	_	-	6
Ospringe	1	23	16	-	1	-	-	-		41
Rodmersham	1		4		-	-	-	-	-	5 3
Selling	_	1	1	_	-		1	-	-	
Sheldwich	-	2 I	- 2	1	1	_	_	-	***	4
Stalisfield		_ _	3	_	_	_			***	4
Teynham	_	21	132	3	-	1	_	_	2	159
Throwley	-	6	2	-	-		-	-	-	8
Tonge	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
Tunstall	-	3	5	-	-	-	_	-	1	9
Upchurch	1	, 11	51	29			1		4	97
	8	239	491	58	5	3	4	2	16	826

#### APPENDIX "B"

# Rainfall and Temperature Recorded at the Borough Sewage Works, Faversham - 1957

MONTH	RAINFALL	MAX	MIN
JANUARY	1.61 ins.	54	27
FEBRUARY	3.06 ins.	55	26
MARCH	.99 ins.	63	27
APRIL	.34 ins.	69	31
MAY	1.21 ins.	71	33
JUNE	1.29 ins.	93	36
JULY	3.42 ins.	90	47
AUGUST	1.89 ins.	76	44
SEPTEMBER	2.58 ins.	73	36
OCTOBER	.95 ins.	66	31
NOVEMBER	3.59 ins.	54	23
DECEMBER	2.15 ins.	59	19

Total rainfall 23.08

## APPENDIX "C"

#### RECORD OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS BY THE

#### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

#### HOUSING

	Housing Act, 1949 Visits under Housing Acts Re-visits under Housing Act Council House Applications Council House Tenancies	• • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••	•••	•••	•••	32 128 298 140 15
PUBL	IC HEALTH							
	Complaints re Houses	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	166
	Other Complaints Re-visits (Houses)	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	64 846
	Other Re-visits	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •	135
	Miscellaneous Visits under P. Infectious Disease	н.А.	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	188 44
	Tents, Vans and Sheds	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	103
	Hop-pickers Camps	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	261
	Fruit Pickers' Camps Schools	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	5 9
	Visits re Vermin	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	• • •	15
	Smoke Observations	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	3

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND SHOPS

#### Food Premises:

Bakehouses	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	8
Slaughterhouses		• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		319
Grocery and General	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		197
Restaurants	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		177
Inns	• • •	• • •			• • •	• • •	• • •		81
Butchers	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		59

	Sausage Factory Shops (Non-food)	•••		•••	•••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	10 5 6 1 11 1
<u>F</u> .	<u>ACTORIES</u>									
	With Power Non-Power	•••	• • •	•••	•••	•••	• • •	•••	•••	38 7
<u>G</u> :	ENERAL									
	Interviews Rat Destruction Visits with M.O.H. Visits with D.P.H.I. Civil Defence		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	410 31 75 59 16
<u>S</u> .	AMPLES FOR ANALYSIS									
D	Water Ice-Cream Faeces	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	•••	•••	•••	1 5 3
<u>D</u>	ISINFECTION									
	Rooms disinfected	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	21

## APPENDIX "D"

## UNSOUND FOOD

## HOME KILLED MEAT

BEEF			Weight (lbs.)
Carcases Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers Miscellaneous Livers Tongues	2 12 7 11 6 64 1	Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Fasciolasis, Abscesses, Cirrhosis Actinomycosis	1,400 414 75 10 29 883 3 2,814
VEAL			
Forequarters		Bruising	41
MUTTON			
Carcases	3	Injury and bad bleeding and multiple abscesses	209
Livers	3	Fasciolasis	7 216
			~10
PORK			
Carcase Head and Tongue Lungs Carcase Lungs	1 10 3 1 4	Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Tuberculosis Erysipelas Pleurisy, Abscesses	145 98 9 81 9

## PORK (Cont:)

Leg 1 Livers 8 Hearts 3	Bruising Cirrhosis, Abscesses Pericarditis	12 24 6 384
OTHER FOOD STUFFS		
3 Tins of Ham 5 Dozen ducks eggs 6 Pork pies 640 boats Jersey	Decomposition Contamination Mould	37 <del>1</del>
Tomatoes Imported Lambs Livers Imported Hindquarters Imported Toppiece and	Decomposition Heated Heated	7,680 10 160
Flank	Heated	$\frac{135}{8,022\frac{1}{2}}$

## APPENDIX "E"

	Public Health Act, 1936	Housing Act, 1936	Food & Drugs	Shops Act, 1950	Factories Act, 1937	Milk & Dairies Regs. 1949		
Preliminary Notices	7.70		7./					
served Preliminary Notices	119	ens	14	***	-			
complied with . Statutory Notices	106	·	14	~ ess	-	1-1		
served Statutory Notices		•••			•••	-		
complied with .	_	<b></b>		ena	470	-		

## WORK COMPLETED AS A RESULT OF ACTION TAKEN

## (a) HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED

## External

Roofs and flashings			• • •	• • •		• • •	39
Chimneys and flues		• • •				• • •	9
Eaves Gutters	• • •		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	32
R. W. Downpipes							12
Walls (brickwork, pointing etc							29
Pavings, steps etc							1
Drainage repaired/cleansed	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •		16
Dustbins renewed/provided	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	1

## <u>Internal</u>

Walls	• • •				 • • •			• • •	• • •	26
Ceilings	• • •	0 0 0		• • •	 • • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	26
Floors		• • •	• • •	• • •	 • • •			• • •		18
Windows	• • •	• • •			 			• • •	• • •	19
Doors	• • •				 			• • •		10

## Internal (Cont:)

	Ranges etc. repaired/renewed  Sinks provided/renewed  Stairs repaired/improved  Dampness otherwise abated  W.C's repaired  Privies repaired	• • •	• • •	13 4 13 15 15 4
(b)	PUBLIC HEALTH			
	Offensive Accumulations removed Smoke nuisance abated Nuisance from Moveable Dwelling abated	• • •	• • •	9 1 1
(c)	FOOD PREMISES AND SHOPS			
	Walls, ceilings, floors, windows, doors repaired Walls, ceilings, floors, windows, doors cleansed Cleanliness improved	• • •	• • •	4 11 2 3 1

